

XI. Chorea and epilepsy are intimately related to each other. Epileptic convulsion (Jacksonian) may be confined to a single member; the same is true of choreic convulsions.

DUBOISIA SULPHATE IN PUERPERAL MANIA.

The "College and Clinical Record," January, 1890, states that Roberts Barthalow advises the subcutaneous injection of duboisia sulphate, gr. $\frac{1}{150}$ to $\frac{1}{60}$, in puerperal mania characterized by delusions and systematic depression. The indication for *atropia in epilepsy* is depression; in the opposite condition, the bromides are indicated.

MYXŒDEMA AND CO-EXISTING EXOPHTHALMIC GOITRE.

In a critical review by P. Kovaleski of "Myxœdema or the Pachydermic Cachexia," contained in the "Archives de Neurologie," November, 1889, there is given an interesting history of this unfortunate combination. The patient, an only child, forty-six years old, had the poorest kind of a chance, in point of heredity. Her paternal grandfather was a drunkard, and died in an insane asylum. Her father committed suicide at the age of twenty-five, a victim to melancholia. The mother was an epileptic. At fourteen the patient talked and walked in her sleep, though strong and well during childhood. The girl married at eighteen, very unhappily. Three or four attacks of epilepsy a year (*petit mal*) began now to manifest themselves. At twenty-four, one attack was followed by automatic acts, such as attending to household affairs, going out, making purchases, of which she had no recollection. Once or twice a year this happened; and when the woman was about thirty-two this psychic automatism became of longer duration, lasting eighteen hours, during which time she was irritable, quarrelsome and even violent. She had hallucinations, and moments of terrible anguish and anxiety. When forty years old, the patient left her husband, became poor and began to earn her own living. Periodic tachycardia now set in, and later became violent and continued. In two years, exophthalmia appeared; and eighteen months afterward, enlargement of the thyroid. She was sometimes better, sometimes worse, with frequent attacks of epileptic violence. During these attacks the symptoms of Basedow's disease were intensified, and became less pronounced when the seizures disappeared. The patient was carefully examined during a paroxysm of epileptic violence, and the following conditions noticed: feet and legs swollen, from the ankles up to the knee; skin stretched and dirty yellow in color, shining,

and denuded of hair, cold and dry to the touch; sebaceous and sudorific secretions absent. There was pitting or rather displacement on pressure, for the depression made by the finger disappeared when it was removed. The only heart symptom was acceleration of its beat (120-140). The urine was non-albuminous, of yellow tint, acid reaction, and containing a considerable quantity of urates (1015). Swelling similar to that in the feet existed in the cheeks and lips. The eyelids were much wrinkled, but not swollen. Hair on the head had become thin, and there was none whatever in the axilla. These symptoms, together with poverty of blood, insomnia, hallucinations of sight and hearing, manifestations of fear and terror, complete "absence," and a tendency to violence made up a picture of sufficient misery. This was succeeded by tranquillity in about three days. But her peaceful condition was not one of quiet, not post-epileptic depression. There was confusion of mind, indistinctness of speech, indifference, loss of facial expression, and general stupidity. Warm baths, galvanism (subaural), quinquina, small doses of arsenic, and somewhat energetic treatment, slowly brought about improvement. In three months all swelling had disappeared, and her psychic state became natural. What remained, however, were anæmic and exophthalmic goitre.

The patient stated that five or six months previous to this last attack she began to be so weak, broken, and exhausted, that her only desire was to stay constantly in bed. Thinking was difficult, or, to be more exact, she had no desire to think. Physically, she was not ill. The temperature was subnormal, and weariness so great that walking or working became almost impossible. She would sit down anywhere, thinking of nothing, and completely broken up. The swelling of the hands was not always present. Without known cause she lost eight teeth during the second month of her illness. Appetite and digestion remained good. There was no perspiration or oily secretion. The tongue became swollen, the saliva abundant, sticky, and thick. The patient always complained of feeling cold, especially in the parts that were swollen. There was but slight change in the thyroid gland at any time. It was a little larger during the epileptic delirium.

TROPHO-NEUROSIS AS A FACTOR IN THE PHENOMENA OF SYPHILIS.

The "St. Louis Courier of Medicine," Feb., 1890, calls attention to a paper with this title by Dr. G. Frank Lydston, in which the author affirms that syphilitic, as well as other